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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

HUMBLE, et al.

Serial No.:

10/688,675

Filing Date:

October 17, 2003

Confirmation No.:

2628

Group Art Unit:

3739

Examiner:

Rosiland Stacie Rollins

Title:

SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR REMOVING A **PROTECTIVE**

COVER FROM \mathbf{A} **MEDICAL**

INSTRUMENT

Mail Stop AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 VIA ELECTRONICALLY FILED WITH THE USPTO ON July 11, 2006

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

In response to the Office Action mailed April 11, 2006 (the "Office Action"), Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of the claims in view of the following Amendments thereto, and the comments as set forth below. Please amend the Application as follows.